

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

There is disclosed a copper smelting process. At first, blister copper is produced in a blister copper-producing facility. Then, the blister copper is caused to flow through blister copper launders into one of anode furnaces, and refined into copper of higher quality in the anode furnace. In the refining operation at the anode furnace, the receiving step and the oxidizing step are carried out at least partly in an overlapping fashion.